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No. 134

## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God our provider, after a week of long hours and tense discussions, countless debates and deliberations, tears shed and tempers raised, we pray Your peace over this House and across this Nation.

Mountains have been shaken, hills have been unearthed, individuals and ideals have been aggrieved, the co-operation and camaraderie have been tossed by tempests.

And yet, You assure us that Your un-failing love for us will not be shaken. You will not forsake Your promise to restore vigor to the tired and worn out, and endurance to the exhausted.

Give strength to the faint-hearted. Increase the fortitude of the weary.

We wait upon You to renew our energies.

Uphold as on eagle's wings these law-makers as they return to their districts, and we pray they receive Your gift of respite.

May they take the time to rededicate their service to You, that in serving the ideas of democracy they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

In Your eternal name we pray.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. VARGAS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIONS,  
Washington, DC, July 28, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Keith Ingram, Elections Director, Texas Office of the Secretary of State, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held July 27, 2021, the Honorable Jake Ellzey was elected Representative to Congress for the Sixth Congressional District, State of Texas.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
Clerk.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,  
July 28, 2021.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
*Clerk, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR Ms. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, for Representative in Congress from the 6th Congressional District of Texas, show that Jake Ellzey received 20,837 or 53.27% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Jake Ellzey was elected as Representative in Congress from the 6th Congressional District of Texas.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all counties involved and

certified by the Governor of Texas, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

KEITH INGRAM,  
*Director of Elections.*

### SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE JAKE ELLZEY, OF TEXAS, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable JAKE ELLZEY, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the Members of the Texas delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. ELLZEY appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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# WELCOMING THE HONORABLE JAKE ELLZEY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as dean of the Texas delegation, it is my honor to welcome to the U.S. House of Representatives Congressman JAKE ELLZEY, who will represent Texas' Sixth Congressional District.

Now, I know that he has only been a Congressman for a few seconds, but I am sure that he is already behind on his schedule, so I will be very brief.

Madam Speaker, our beliefs may differ, and our votes may contrast, but I do not doubt for a moment that we share the same commitment to public service and the same sentiment that what we need is consensus builders, people willing to work together, regardless of party, for the good of their constituents. Given that our two districts are next to each other, I look forward to having a strong working relationship with Congressman ELLZEY, like I had with his two predecessors, Congressman Joe Barton and the late Congressman Ron Wright.

Again, on behalf of the Texas delegation, welcome to the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY).

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, first of all, I thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; my family—my beautiful wife, Shelby; my incredible daughter, McCall; and my incredible son, Jack; my parents in Texas and California; and papa looking down on me from Heaven.

I thank my family in the Sixth District of Texas. I will serve you with quiet professionalism.

I would like to read for you Philippians 4:8-9.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things. Do what you have learned and received and heard from me, and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

I believe America is exceptional. I love my country. It is an honor to serve. I would appreciate the prayers of all of those in here as I learn my job.

Madam Speaker, I would like to leave you with a moment of silence for your colleague, our friend, and my predecessor, Ron Wright, and his family.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. In light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Texas, the whole number of the House is 432.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PIN-GREE). The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## HONORING FATHER JOE CARROLL

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, we rise today—my colleague, Congressman PETERS, and myself—in honor of Father Joe Carroll, our San Diego's Mother Teresa.

Father Joe was born in the Bronx, New York, on April 12, 1941, and had seven brothers and sisters. He moved to California in his twenties, where he completed his studies at the University of San Diego and was ordained as a priest in 1974. He was assigned to St. Rita Catholic Church with a concurrent assignment to work with St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic organization known for helping the poor, especially the poorest of the poor.

From 1982 to 2011, Father Joe led St. Vincent de Paul, growing the organization to 500 employees and a budget of \$40 million. In 2015, the organization was renamed "Father Joe's Village" in his honor.

On July 10, 2021, just a few months after his 80th birthday, Father Joe passed. Father Joe Carroll was a heroic man who helped his community with the entirety of his heart and soul. He helped the poor, the hungry, and especially the homeless, and he had a gift for bringing all people together in his mission to serve.

Father Joe was loved by many and influenced so many of us. His accomplishments and contributions to the community were profound.

He will be sorely missed. Many of us expect that one day he will be named a saint in the Catholic Church.

## BIDEN'S INFLATION

(Mr. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I want to take one second to congratulate JAKE ELLZEY on his election to Congress.

It brought two people back together. MIKE GARCIA and JAKE actually served our Nation earlier, before he served in this body. He flew F-18s off an aircraft carrier into Iraq. They were brothers, and now they are back together again, serving their Nation and putting it forth.

It might be a little ironic that they both came in in a special election. They both were turning points on those elections and, I would say, underdogs in those elections. But it shows they both graduated from the Naval Academy, served their Nation, and continue

to serve again. This is a good day in this House.

Madam Speaker, 1 week ago, President Biden said inflation was temporary. He went on to say that spending trillions more would "reduce inflation, reduce inflation, reduce inflation." I think he is the only one who believes that.

I say to the President, with all due respect, we need to wake up. Inflation has risen every single month since he took office, and last month was the largest increase in 13 years.

Now, let's be very clear. Inflation is a tax on every single American. Everyone who is buying groceries knows it. Everyone who is filling up their car knows it. Everyone who is booking a summer flight knows it.

Yet, President Biden told a townhall in Ohio last week: "I don't know anybody . . . who is worried about inflation."

Madam Speaker, the only people I could imagine who are not worried about inflation make \$5 million in a couple of months trading stock options or sell paintings for half a million dollars.

Why doesn't the President of the United States know what is going on? This is what Americans hate about Washington. They turn on their TV and hear the President telling them their concerns aren't real.

Enough is enough. People are fed up with the ignorance and arrogance and hypocrisy.

Madam Speaker, President Biden needs to get a clue about inflation before it is too late. And it is not just Republicans who have been warning the Democrats if they pass the bill it would bring inflation, and here it is. It was Democrats who served in the Obama administration and Clinton administration, who warned them if they spend more trillions, inflation will come. And it has come every single month. And what is their answer for the future? More trillions. They will probably even try to call us back in August to make sure inflation grows a little more.

And, if that is not enough, just yesterday, we missed every indication and every prediction for growth in America. Americans can't take this much longer. November can't come sooner.

Inflation is a tax on every single American. But for those who don't know it, spend a little time with the real America and you will realize it.

□ 0915

## 9/11 NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL ROUTE

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, my community in southeastern Pennsylvania was deeply impacted by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

Members of our community were among the flight crews and passengers